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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Oregon, Washington and Idaho—Rain.

LIVEN UP A LITTLE.

Astoria and Clatsop county have arrived at a pass where there is a demand for some live and snappy work on the part of the real estate agent. There are any amount of sales projected and there would be plenty of buyers if the situation was advertised and exploited as it should be. A man called at this office yesterday and protested against the inactivity of the realty market, saying that "he had several pieces of property from which a live agent might make a good thing if they were taken hold of, advertised and pushed in an aggressive way," and deprecated the easy-going methods now prevailing here.

There is nothing to be done by sitting down and waiting for the casual buyer. Any town can slip along in that way. What is needed is a few quick, active, up-to-date, advertising, determined agents that mean something and do something in their own behalf, and in behalf of the city and its ready-for-sale realty. Get a move on, or there will be rustling men in here from outside that will pick up the margins that are waiting.

ASTORIA AND 1906.

Astoria has little or nothing to complain of from the current year. She has been successful in many of her undertakings; she has many good things well started, and some others that need a bit more time to make them actualities. The fishing and lumber interests have been satisfactory in all directions; the commercial life of the city has suffered no back-set and there have been no losses by flood, fire or fatuous enterprises her building ventures have been numerous, involving large amounts of capital; her population has increased steadily; all her departments of public service have operated with success; her street car service has been largely improved; she is to have a new charter of distinct value in many ways; she has a new hotel under contemplation; and a seawall is not altogether a barren project; her banks are in thriffter condition than ever in her history; she is in good humor with herself over the railroad situation and the extensions assured her, and taken in every way, she is in creditable and promising shape, and her people knew it and are making the most of it.

OUR SHREWD GOVERNMENT.

Russia would like to borrow \$300,000,000. If Russia had held on to Alaska until now, and the world had come to know as much of its value as a Russian possession as it does now when it is an American possession, she could sell half of it for the loan she desires to make—\$360,000,000.

Uncle Sam would not sell Alaska for \$1,000,000,000, yet he paid only \$7,200,000 less than forty years ago.

Your Uncle Sam has always driven a good bargain, whenever he has gone into the real estate business.

That was a good bargain when more than 100 years ago he took over the Northwest Territory. That is worth quite a number of billions now, but he paid a small price.

Then look at the bargain he made in

1803 when he closed the Louisiana Purchase. He paid \$15,000,000 for that, but now would refuse with scorn, fifty billions for the same territory and what is on it. Then came the Alaska deal.

A few years ago Uncle Sam had occasion to shove Spain out of the Philippines, but as he saw the old party hobbling away from the islands he felt sorry for her, and dropped a few gold pieces, \$20,000,000 or such a matter, into her trembling hand. It was a mere act of kindness; Uncle Sam was under no obligations to give a penny, but he had done so well in previous land deals he felt he could show pity.

If you think Uncle Sam didn't make a good bargain in the Philippines, drop around to the real estate office thirty-five years from now and make him a test offer for the islands. The prediction is made that he would say he now and then buys real estate but hasn't any to sell. And he might add that if the Philippines were for sale he might let them go at \$2,000,000,000. That is not a rash guess.

ASTORIA IS A PART.

Very few adults, much less the children, realize the importance of the public school system of this country. Now boys and girls, read this and think well upon it, and parents who read call the attention of your children to these facts. With the beginning of this term there will be more than 18,000,000 pupils gathered in 260,000 public school buildings presided over by 460,000 teachers, who earn an annual stipend of \$260,000,000. The country pays more than 15 cents a day to the teacher for the instruction of each pupil on the average. The school expenses are more than \$5,000 a minute. The rich men, the wealth of the country, is taxed and taxed heavily, that every boy and girl whether of rich or poor parents, may be prepared, equipped and trained for a life's work with a good education.

STRINGENT TRUTHS.

The startling statement was made by the Rev. Joseph A. Milburn, before an audience of women at the Englewood Woman's club that: "Women—mothers and wives—are to blame for most of the immorality in the world." Continuing the speaker said: "Women allow one standard of morals for themselves and another for their husbands. When their boys go astray they hold out their hands to help them; when their daughters go astray they weep because they know they are forever ostracized, and they make no effort to change the condition of affairs. Men should be held to the same restrictions as women, and women should be allowed the same latitude as men. The great sin is not the sin of the magnificent passion, but the sin of the circumscribed life. Women need broader scope. Their routine duties are narrowing. They get into ruts which are suicidal. Literature is a respite. Reading gives the necessary broadening influence. The tendency of most people is to become provincial and reading overcomes this tendency."

EDITORIAL SALAD.

You will notice that the lady sitting ahead of you has an awful time to keep her hair up if she has a pretty hand; and if there is a diamond on it, her hair just won't stay up.

Not being up a tree, we may not be able to see clearly, but it looks to us as though Cuba wanted to be one of the United States and was too proud to ask in the regular way for permission to come in.

Experiments have demonstrated the fact that a man may become beastly drunk by eating salt saturated with kerosene oil. This may necessitate the adding of a clause to the prohibition law in the arid states.

In the Indian ocean only 370 out of 16,300 islands are inhabited.

In Iowa hereafter the grocer will not only not pay anything for addled or rotten eggs, but the party caught selling them to him will lay himself liable to a fine of from \$5 to \$100 for violation of the pure food law.

Farm lands in America have increased in value six million dollars since 1900; in other words, in the past five years the increase of value amounted to one-third. It would be a pretty flourishing town where property could claim an increase of one-third in value during the past five years.

The local paper should be found in every home. No children will grow up ignorant who are taught to appreciate the home paper. He may be called the stepping stone of intelligence in general information of all those matters not to be found in books. If you give your children only city papers

A Hymn for Today

THE MERCY SEAT

By Hugh Stowell



FROM every stormy wind that blows,
From every swelling tide of woes,
There is a calm, a sure retreat—
'Tis found beneath the mercy seat.

There is a place where Jesus sheds
The oil of gladness on our heads,
A place than all beside more sweet—
It is the blood bought mercy seat.

There is a spot where spirits blend,
Where friend holds fellowship with friend;
Though sundered far by faith, they meet
Around one common mercy seat.

There, there on eagle's wings we soar,
And time and sense seem all no more,
And heaven comes down our souls to greet,
And glory crowns the mercy seat.



No Catastrophe Is Inevitable

By MAURICE MAETERLINCK, Sociologist,
Philosopher and Dramatist

PERHAPS it is not surprising that INSTINCT saves us from great dangers, habitual and immemorial; from the water, the fire, falls, shocks, animals. It evidently has had habitation with them—an ATAVIC EXPERIENCE therewith which explains its agility. But what is marvelous is the ease, the promptness with which it acquaints itself with the most complex and the most unwonted inventions of our intelligence. It suffices to show at once the mechanism, the usage and the end of the most unlooked for machine, however strange and useless it may be to our real and primitive needs, and it understands. Henceforth in time of need it will know the last secrets and the BEST MANIPULATION that intelligence can devise.

This is why, however novel, however recent or however formidable be the instrument, it may be affirmed that IN PRINCIPLE THERE IS NO INEVITABLE CATASTROPHE. The subconscious always, in point of fact, is at the top of all imaginable situations. Between the chops of the sea or on the mountain top, one can, one should await the decisive movement of instinct which has resources as inexhaustible as the universe or as nature.

Inequalities of instinct, which pertain rather to the promptness of the appeal than to the quality of the aid, manifest themselves at all accidents. Place two automobilists in two parallel dangers exactly identical, ONE WILL ESCAPE, THE OTHER BE BRUISED. In a carriage accident, of six persons three will act too intelligently, the other three will save themselves by actions that utterly are indefensible on the grounds of reason. Can the instinct be educated? This would require special study. In the interim it may be remarked that it seems probable that as we accustom ourselves to the habitual and systematic use of the material forces of nature, of all those enormous things which we term nature, WE INCREASE THE DISTANCE that instinct has to cover in coming to our aid. This distance, inappreciable among the savages, the simple, the humble, augments with every step taken by our education, our civilization.

I AM PERSUADED THAT WERE WE TO SURPRISE A PEASANT, A LABORER, IN THE SAME CATASTROPHE WITH HIS PROPRIETOR, HE WOULD HAVE TWO OR THREE CHANCES MORE OF EXTRICATING HIMSELF THEREFROM THAN THE MORE EDUCATED MAN.

which contain little or nothing about the persons they know, or the places they have seen, how can you expect them to be interested? Let them have the home paper and read of people whom they meet and of places with which they are familiar and soon an interest is awakened and increases with each arrival of the well edited paper of their home town. Thus a habit of reading is early formed and with it comes the information that gives a desire for study and research. There is no greater educator than the good old home paper that comes regularly with its columns well filled with home news.

Did you ever bake bananas? If not, you have missed a great dainty within the reach of all. Skin the bananas, lay them side by side on a baking dish or pan, put them into a hot oven and bake until a rich brown. The juice from the fruit will form a thick syrup. Serve hot or cold with cream and sugar, and you will thank us for suggesting this cheap but toothsome dish. Bananas so served will be found to be easily digested by those who cannot eat them raw without indigestion.

Americans traveling in Mexico are said to be struck by the small number of cooking stoves there. The Mexican cooking apparatus is a clay brazier, constructed upon an elevated platform of the same material. The braziers are about four inches high and six to eight inches apart, and wood is burned in them. The smoke and soot which gets all over the food may be relished by the natives, but are not palatable to others.

IN THE CITY THEATERS.

"AT SILVER CREEK."

A thoroughly enjoyable play, with an interesting plot well worked out, finely acted and adequately presented as to scenery, appointments and costuming—this must be said of the delightful comedy-drama "At Silver Creek," produced last night at the Star Theater, by the Mack Swain Company. It deals with the fortunes of an orphan girl left to the care of four old men, her father's friends, of her early life and upbringing amid the rude surroundings of a Western mining camp, her subsequent removal to England and more refined influences, and her final return to the home of her childhood, and her devoted guardians. As "Sunday," the waif, the ward of the rough, but big-hearted old miners, Cora King Swain was charmingly natural, delightfully original, thoroughly convincing, subtly and ably portraying the gradual development from the care-free, light-hearted, romping girl, to the cultured and refined woman of good society. In her lighter scenes, her mirth and jollity were delicious; in her more serious work, her efforts were true to nature and met with unqualified approval. As the four old guardians, Messrs. Swain, Layne, Hutchinson and Berrell were delightfully quaint and humorous and provided the comedy portion of the entertainment. Bert Frank was an impressive "Col. Brinthorpe," Jas. Wright a conscientious "Tom Oxley," and Daisy D'Arva a dignified "Sister Margaret." The same bill will be repeated tonight, Saturday and Sunday nights, and at the Sunday matinee.

AMUSEMENTS.

STAR THEATER

P. GEVURTZ, Manager

The Mack Swain Theater Co.

presenting tonight the sensational 4-act comedy drama

At Silver Creek

SPECIAL SCENERY

Popular Prices; 15c, 25c and 35c

BOX OFFICE OPEN 7:45; CURTAINS GOES UP AT 8:15 SHARP.

ASTORIA THEATRE

R. E. ELVERS, Manager.

Only One Night

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26th

Mr. and Mrs. John T. Chick & Co. will present the Laughable Farce Comedy

MY WIFE'S MOTHER

PRICES: 25c, 35c, 50c and 75c. Curtain at 8:15

ASTORIA THEATRE

Only One Night

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27

Liebler & Co. will present the celebrated English Society Comedy,

IN THE BISHOP'S CARRIAGE

PRICES, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50

Curtain at 8:15.

FINANCIAL.

J. Q. A. BOWLEY, President.
O. I. PETERSON, Vice-President.

FRANK PATTON, Cashier.
J. W. GARNER, Assistant Cashier.

Astoria Savings Bank

Capital Paid in \$100,000, Surplus and Undivided Profits \$55,000.
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